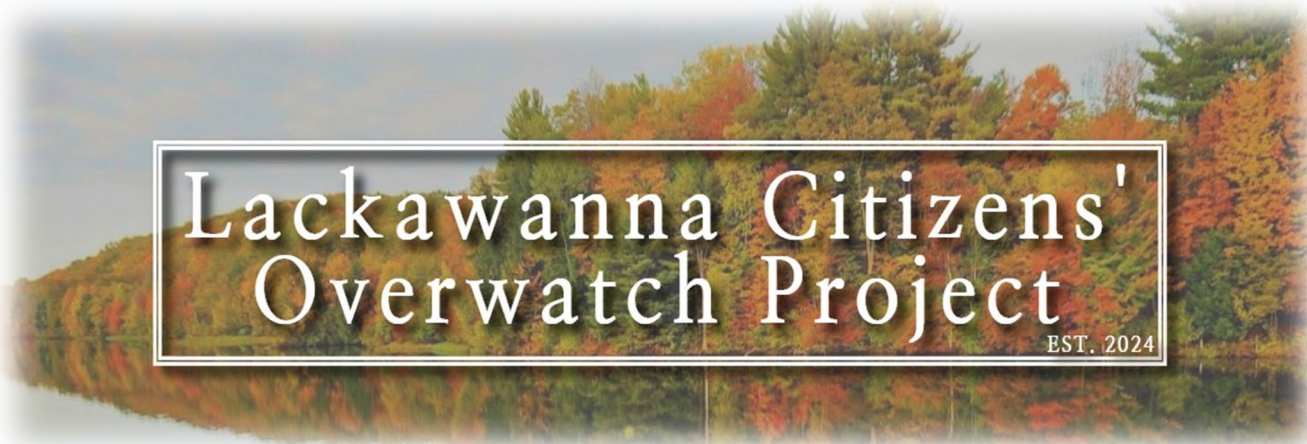




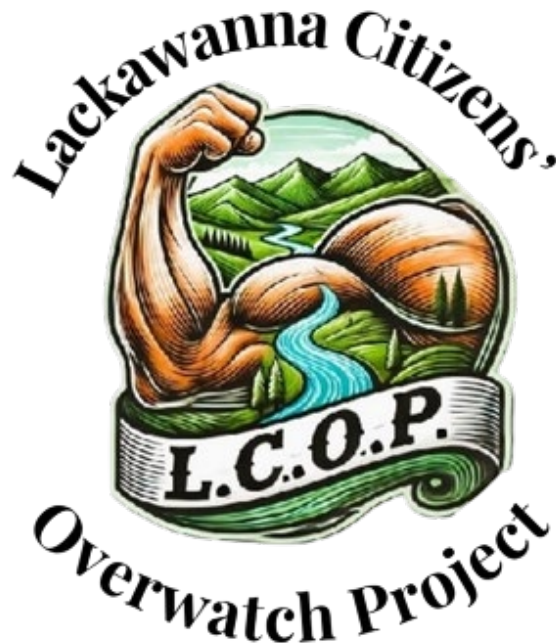
Lackawanna Citizens' Overwatch Project

EST. 2024

Data Center Invasion

Lackawanna County, PA
Archbald, PA – Olyphant, PA

Lackawanna Citizens' Overwatch Project (L.C.O.P.) is a grassroots community advocacy and watchdog organization that began in **2024 after the death of my father from cancer**. Before he passed, he believed his illness may have been connected to exposures from his former employer, which led us to start asking questions, filing records requests, and digging into the environmental history surrounding the **former Specialty Records/ WEA/ Cinram facility** that once was Pennsylvania's largest employer that manufactured Records, CD's, and DVD's. What began as a search for answers for one family has grown into a broader effort focused on environmental concerns, government transparency, corporate accountability, historic contamination, cancer-related exposure concerns, and proposed data center development throughout Lackawanna County. Our mission is to **follow the facts, demand transparency, protect our communities, and make sure residents have a voice in decisions that could affect their health, environment, and quality of life for generations.**



Website: www.LackawannaCitizensOverwatchProject.com

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Archbald, PA

District 40 – Senator Rosemary Brown

(Keep in mind this is ***just*** in the borough of Archbald, PA - There are also proposals for similar projects in the neighboring boroughs as well, such as Olyphant, Dickson City, Jessup, Bear Creek, Clifton Township, Covington Township, etc)

****All information was taken from Archbald's website:**

<https://stoparchbalddatacenters.notion.site/STOP-Archbald-Data-Centers-32ca4bb7caed8033b6ccc7229baaf465>

****If interested, here is a link to the Archbald conditional use hearings schedule:**

<https://stoparchbalddatacenters.notion.site/Meetings-Events-32fa4bb7caed80249348da748554d2a3>

Archbald, PA has become one of the most heavily targeted communities in the country for proposed hyperscale data center development. **Archbald has the highest concentration of proposed hyperscale data centers of any municipality in Pennsylvania.**

Project Wildcat Ridge Archbald, PA

FOURTEEN massive industrial buildings where there used to be forest.

Key Details

- 574 diesel generators proposed on-site
- 1,148,000 gallons of diesel fuel stored on the mountain. 2,000 gallons per generator
- 1,600 MW power demand requiring more than \$93 million in local grid upgrades just to keep the lights on at this one site
- 3,300,000 gallons of water consumed daily at peak, equivalent to the daily needs of a small city
- 200 acres of forest permanently clear-cut. Habitat and green space gone for good
- 2,500 additional vehicle trips per day. A 13.6% increase on roads that already serve our neighborhoods
- 570 acre industrial footprint sitting directly above residential Archbald, permanently reshaping the valley below

Project Gravity Archbald, PA

1.93 million square foot data center campus with **SEVEN** seventy foot industrial buildings.

Key Details

- 186 acres of forested woodland cleared for a high-intensity industrial complex
- 1.93 million square feet of development. Estimates have nearly doubled from original projections
- Seven 70 foot industrial buildings legally permitted as close as 40 feet from residential property lines
- 91,000 gallons of water consumed daily. 77,000 for cooling, 14,000 for domestic use
- Diesel backup generators with noise, vibration, and odor reports deferred; developer acknowledges designs are currently “speculative”
- State permit application flagged “technically deficient” by the Lackawanna County Conservation District
- No public hearings. No Borough Council vote. A by-right use under the 2023 ordinance

Project Archbald Conditional Use

EIGHTEEN buildings on 400 acre industrial campus, more than 5.5 million square feet of data center infrastructure.

Key Details

- 400 acres, 18 buildings, 5.5 million square feet, structures reaching 90 feet tall, sitting directly next to Archbald Pothole State Park and the youth soccer fields at Ed Staback Memorial Park
- Three electrical substations and a large switchyard to tap into high voltage transmission lines already crossing the property
- A generator yard the size of nearly two football fields attached to every building. Diesel and possible natural gas backup power potentially running around the clock, with the overlay ordinance legally permitting a permanent 5 decibel noise increase for anyone living within 2,500 feet
- 8 foot anticlimb fencing and 24/7 staffed guard stations enclosing what is currently mature woodland and open space
- Wetlands disturbed, existing structures destroyed and a landscape with deep anthracite mining history permanently erased

- 2,068 additional vehicle trips every weekday at full build out, with access points on both the Scranton Carbondale Highway and Eynon-Jermyn Road
- Public hearings are legally required before any vote and critical questions about water supply and electrical capacity have not been heard due to a denial of the application because of a clerical error resulting in an unmet statutory requirement.

Project Green Mountain Archbald, PA

Spanning 271 acres, roughly 33 football fields, built around **SEVEN** data centers, each rising 65 feet above the ridgeline.

Key Details

- 271 acres of natural community backdrop permanently converted to high intensity industrial use
- 1.93 million square feet across seven data centers, a footprint the size of 33 football fields
- 196 diesel generators with nearly 2 million gallons of fuel stored on-site → 10,000 gallons per generator
- 280 roof-mounted industrial chillers running 24/7, producing a constant mechanical hum across the valley
- 14,000 gallons of water consumed daily to keep the facility operational
- 45 decibels of permanent noise, engineered to the edge of the Borough's strictest residential limit

Project Archbald North

A 66 acre industrial data center campus.

Key Details

- 66 acres of woodland clear-cut replaced by over 33 acres of impervious concrete, asphalt, and rooftops
- **THREE TO FOUR** data center buildings at 124,200 sq ft each, soaring 70 feet high and permitted as close as 40 feet from the front property line
- A 350'×400' high voltage substation and a 74,970 sq ft generator yard potentially housing nearly 30 diesel generators, bringing constant industrial noise and exhaust directly into residential backyards

- Water consumption left blank. The developer's intent to service letter from Pennsylvania American Water contains no figure for cooling system demand, leaving the community with no information about the draw on local supply
- Primary access routed through residential Jermyn creating heavy construction and daily operational traffic funneled directly onto Lackawanna Street

Project Archbald Scott

A 400 plus acre industrial data center campus **SIXTEEN** data center buildings, each over 124,000 square feet.

Key Details

- 16 to 18 data center buildings at 124,200 sq ft each. Site plans label structures up to Building 18, suggesting the project may be larger than the developer's own narrative states
- A 74,970 sq ft generator yard attached to every building creating dedicated industrial power infrastructure repeated across the entire campus
- Up to 884,000 gallons of water per day at peak demand with an average daily draw of 255,000 gallons
- A 760'x850' switching station and at least four separate substations creating industrial scale electrical infrastructure positioned directly next to residential zones
- Minimum building setbacks of just 40 feet despite the scale of the structures and infrastructure involved
- Impervious surface requiring multiple large detention ponds. Existing woodland and open fields replaced by millions of square feet of concrete and rooftops draining toward the Lackawanna River
- Required studies still missing as of November 2025; Archbald Borough is still demanding noise limits, vibration evaluation, lighting plans, and steep slope mitigation from the developer

Project Boson Archbald, PA

A 70.5 acre former auto salvage yard for a **single** 619,925 square-foot data center reaching up to 70 feet high.

Key Details

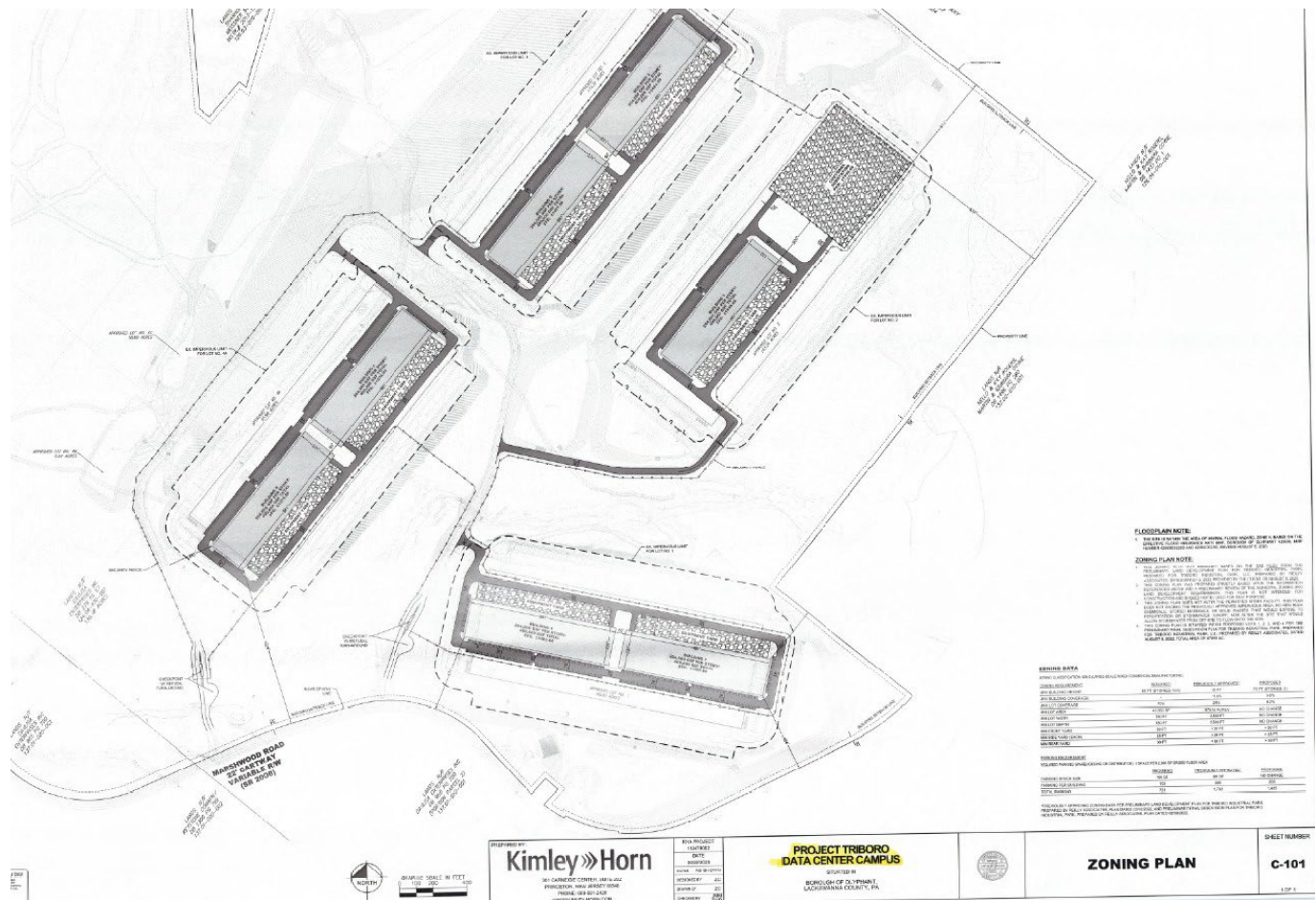
- 619,925 sq ft data center plus a 20,000 sq ft operations building up to 70 feet tall across a 70.5-acre property
 - Bordered on three sides by residential neighborhoods yet permitted to build as close as 40 feet from side yards and 50 feet from back yards
 - 748 new vehicle trips per day added to Eynon-Jermyn Road via a newly constructed full access driveway
 - A new on site electric utility substation required, plus up to 8,500 gallons of water drawn daily from Pennsylvania American Water
 - 42% of the property paved or roofed over 8 acres of forested wetlands on site requiring 20 separate stormwater control measures to manage the runoff
 - No public hearing. No Borough Council vote. Permitted by right in this commercial zone. One of the ways for community to provide input is through DEP and PennDOT permitting reviews
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Olyphant, PA

District 40 – Senator Rosemary Brown

Project Triboro Olyphant, PA

Details surrounding this project are still unclear because Olyphant Council has provided very little information to the public. Residents attempting to raise concerns at council meetings have repeatedly been cut off or dismissed. We are given only 2 minutes to speak our mind and one second after 2 minutes they tell us to go sit down. While the project has often been described to us simply as “warehouses”, L.C.O.P. obtained a Right-to-Know Law document that shows a **site diagram that specifically identifies the development as a “Data Center Campus.”**



What makes this location even more troubling is the timeline. **Large-scale tree clearing was already taking place along Marshwood Road in 2022**, years before data centers became a major public issue in our area. I remember driving down Marshwood Road that year, seeing the trees gone, and wondering what was being prepared for construction. At the time, virtually no one in the community was talking about data centers. Looking back now, that early clearing raises even more questions about how long this project may have been contemplated and what information was known before the public became aware of it.

For L.C.O.P., the location itself is what makes this proposal especially frightening. We strongly encourage you to review our separate document, **“L.C.O.P. Environmental Concerns.doc,”** which explains the historic contamination, groundwater, abandoned mine workings, potential migration pathways, and other environmental conditions that make us deeply concerned about large-scale excavation and construction at this site. Additionally, you can always go to our website as well: www.LackawannaCitizensOverwatchProject.com

LONG STORY SHORT: L.C.O.P. has uncovered disturbing historical evidence showing that workers at the former Specialty Records/WEA/Cinram facility reported being instructed to **dispose of hazardous and cancer-causing chemicals improperly, including dumping chemicals down drains, placing them in regular trash (which would now be in PA's largest landfill, 1.75 miles away), and disposing of materials in wooded areas behind the building and directly into Sterry Creek**, which runs through Olyphant and Jessup before feeding into the Lackawanna River. We also have documentation confirming that in **1999 drums containing hazardous chemicals were excavated on the property**, yet despite extensive searching and FOIA records requests, **we have not located documentation showing that PA DEP notified the EPA**. Separate environmental records from **2020 documented concentrations of cobalt, selenium, lead, aluminum, and manganese in soil and/or groundwater above applicable Pennsylvania standards**, information that was also kept from the surrounding community. With decades of industrial activity occurring above a landscape riddled with abandoned mines and fractured geology, L.C.O.P. believes serious questions remain about whether contaminants could migrate through groundwater, mine voids, waterways, soil gas, or vapor intrusion pathways. **These are exactly the kinds of legacy contamination issues that should be thoroughly investigated before additional large-scale excavation and construction disturb this ground.**